

Mr. CHABOT led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER. This is Private Calendar day. The Clerk will call the individual bill on the Private Calendar.

BELINDA MCGREGOR

The Clerk called the Senate bill (S. 452) for the relief of Belinda McGregor.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be passed over without prejudice.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

A TRIBUTE TO CINCINNATI POLICE OFFICER STEVEN WONG

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, my hometown, Cincinnati, is saying goodbye to one of its most respected public servants, and I am saying goodbye to a good friend. After a lengthy battle with cancer, Cincinnati Police Sergeant Steve Wong has passed away at the young age of 45. He will be sorely missed by his family, his wife, Christy, and his sons Jared and Bret, and his parents, Tom and Anna, and by his colleagues and his friends.

Steve Wong was one of those individuals who earned the respect of everyone who knew him. Upon Steve's death, Cincinnati Police Lieutenant Colonel Richard Biehl said, "I do not think I have ever known anyone who was so universally liked in the police division." So much so by his colleagues that the Cincinnati Police Department raised funds to help pay his medical bills and donated their sick leave in order to help Steve and his family through their long ordeal. That says something about the quality of the Cincinnati Police Department as well.

Mr. Speaker, Cincinnati will miss Steve Wong. His commitments to his community were unparalleled. Even while battling cancer himself, Steve volunteered to assist other cancer patients and their families during their time of need. He was truly a great American. We all extend our condolences to his family. Steve is gone, but he will never be forgotten.

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE SUMMIT

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent and the Orange County delegate to the Voices Against Violence Summit this week. As my colleagues know, our Democratic leader, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), is sponsoring a youth summit to combat teen violence, and I am proud to be participating in this event.

Michelle Aceves is in Washington as a result. She is a recent graduate of Century High School of Santa Ana, and now she attends Orange Coast College, where she is studying psychology and broadcast journalism. She plans to complete her studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

In addition to her academic commitment, Ms. Aceves works part-time and volunteers at McFadden Middle School in my district. Hundreds of teenagers like Michelle from across the country are here this week to share their ideas on youth violence. Michelle and her fellow delegates have proven what many of us have long known, that our teenagers believe that helping our children and young adults stay safe is a top priority and that they want to help solve this crisis.

This conference will lay the foundation for local projects to prevent violence in our schools. Our teens can contribute to the congressional debate on youth violence, and they can help to find solutions. But we must listen.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL STUART

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday the University of Nevada's athletic department and the Wolfpack supporters suffered an enormous loss when their sports information director, Paul Stuart, passed away.

Stuart was an avid sports enthusiast and became the Wolfpack's biggest fan when he took the job in 1981. His career at the University of Nevada, Reno, was decorated with numerous awards and citations for simply being one of the best. Whether it was designing the next media guide or providing radio and television commentary, Paul Stuart succeeded in providing a shining light on the Pack's athletic achievements.

Stuart, a 1975 graduate from the University of New Mexico, went on to become the information service director at New Mexico Highlands University. Soon after, he left for Nevada and became one of the hardest working individuals in the Wolfpack athletic department, sometimes working well late into the night.

And though Paul Stuart was perhaps the largest promoter and fan of the Nevada athletic teams and individuals, he was an even larger fan of his family. Mr. Speaker, as both a Nevadan and a Wolfpack alumnus, my thoughts and

prayers go out to Paul's wife Annie and his four children, Calvin, Lindsay, Kara, and Kelsey. He will be sorely missed.

RUSSIAN POLITICAL LEADERS ARE STEALING AMERICAN FOREIGN AID

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, \$7.5 billion Russian dollars turned up in a bank in New York. Now, what is going on here? Russia is so poor they cannot buy toilet paper. When asked about it, fumbling, bumbling, stumbling Boris said, "I'm no criminal. It's not my money."

Who is kidding whom? Two and a half million of those dollars were traced back to Boris's son-in-law. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Russian politicians are stealing American foreign aid. Boris does not need American cash; Boris needs Alcoholics Anonymous.

I yield back all the bleeding hearts in Washington and all around America that keep pumping money into Russia.

ENACT H.R. 2420, INTERNET FREEDOM AND BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ACT OF 1999, AND ELIMINATE THE WORLD-WIDE-WAIT

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, broadband Internet access promises to revolutionize the way Americans live, play, and learn. However, only 2 percent of Americans have access to broadband communications.

Today, consumers must settle for slow Internet access. Most of us have experienced the worldwide wait of too many consumers trying to get on and surf the Net at the same time through slow dial-up connections overloading the system.

Is there anything Congress can do to clear the traffic jam? Yes. Congress can pass H.R. 2420, the Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act of 1999. That will encourage companies to build out the Internet backbone and allow the benefits of broadband to flow freely to all consumers rather than the current trickle down to a lucky few.

H.R. 2420 will remove the regulatory barriers erected by the FCC that are hindering the deployment of broadband services by the Bell companies. These companies should be encouraged, instead of discouraged, to invest in broadband services.

This legislation already enjoys broad bipartisan support. I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 2420 today.

FY 2000 FUNDING FOR THE GEAR-UP PROGRAM

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House